

IN THE WALLS



BY: CARLY

Chapter One: Why This House?

"This looks great! I love this house already"

"Alex, are you serious, you love this house? This is an old run down block of wood."

"Oh calm down Anna, you haven't even stepped inside yet and you're already judging it. Plus look at the outside you could make like a-- project out of it."

"Yeah well this house is already creeping me out," As Anna looked at the house, she trembled at the dark and creepy look of the windows and the creaking coming from the shutters. She continued, "I mean just look at it, the windows are dark in the middle of the day, the shutters are scratched and falling off the house, and the steps are crumbling." Anna looked at the house and felt a qualm deep in the pit of her stomach, and her face was even more pale than usual. She shuddered at the thought of what might be inside, hidden in the walls or the floors. She took a deep breath and said, "Well, come on then, let's get this over with."

Anna walked behind Alex slowly up the old steps. When Anna took a step on the porch a huge gust of wind whipped past her head. She felt as though someone, someone terrified, had just ran right through her. She looked in the direction the wind came from, but she noticed that the leaves on the trees were still. "Weird," she thought, she looked back at the door as Alex opened it. When he opened it, an eerie screech came from the hinges. "Oh so you're telling me that *that* didn't just give you the creeps?" demanded Anna.

"Oh, it's nothing a little oil can't fix," stated Alex simply. They stepped inside and took a look around. They saw a myriad of rickety steps and could smell the dark and musty wood. Alex was absolutely thrilled. "Look at the bones of this house, we can do so much to make it exactly the way *you* want it."

"But don't you think that would cost a lot of money... I mean look at this place it's so old you would have to do a lot to get it to look so nice." Anna replied with an uneasy tone. She really didn't like the house and was saying anything to try and convince Alex to move on, but he was very stuck on this house for reasons she just couldn't understand.

They walked into the kitchen and saw all of the broken cabinets and the old, run down appliances. Anna began to go from worried about the house to angry that Alex was so obsessed with it. She had her arms crossed over her chest and an annoyed expression on her face. She finally decided to say, "Alex I hate this house, why do you love it so much.... I mean why this house...."

Alex noticed her annoyance, walked over to her, put his hands on her shoulders, looked at her with his deep green eyes and said, "Anna I know you don't like the house, but it's a house, what is going to do to you?" Little did he know that comment had just awoken the demon deep inside the walls of the house.

Alex's reassurance didn't really help Anna. She was still very uneasy about the house, but she trusted Alex and decided to buy the house. Deep down though, she knew something was going to go wrong and she wished Alex had really listened to her and thought twice about the house. She thought that maybe if she ignored her feeling though, everything would be fine.

Chapter Two: Nothing!

Alex and Anna moved in the next year after all of the work they did on the house. Anna was surprised at how nice everything turned out, and was actually very pleased with how house looked. Even though it still smelled like a mixture of wet paint and musty wood, Anna thought that just maybe she would be able to live in this house. That is though before she lived in the house for a week and started noticing things.

Sometime in the second week of Alex and Anna living in the house Anna started to notice weird things that went on in the house. She noticed that there would be footsteps coming from downstairs like someone was walking around, or that she would hear whispers coming from down the hall, but she could never really figure out what it was. One night when they were getting ready for bed Anna kept hearing what she thought was banging on the walls from downstairs, and she began to get really worried. She looked at Alex and said, "Do you hear that or is it just me?"

He didn't really seem to care and answered, "No, why do you want me to go down there and see what it is."

Anna got an attitude and snapped back, "Yeah i want you to go see what it is. What do you think I want you to sit up hear and listen to it. Go deal with your house."

Alex rolled his eyes and sighed, "Fine dear I'll go and see if any monsters are hiding down there."

"Is anyone down there?" called Alex as he cautiously made his way through the house and down the stairs. He heard what sounded like a scream and another bang, louder this time. Anna screamed with fear and began to cry. Alex heard her crying in her bed and knew he had to be strong, but every step he took down the stairs was even more terrifying than the last. As he gingerly walked down the stairs, he could feel the icy crisp air running into him like a brick wall. He got goose bumps from the chill and it made the hairs on the back of his neck stand straight up. He could feel eyes watching him, so he whipped his head around expecting someone to be there.

When he reached the bottom of the steps he slowly turned his head around the old and scratched door frame. He saw the dusty tools and the old tarps everywhere he had left them so he felt better knowing, or a least thinking no one had been or was there. As he peered the other way he could see a dark misty shadow out of the corner of his eye. He slammed his backside against the cold hard wall, using it as a support. He yelled for it to go away and that he had nothing that it wanted, but he knew that wouldn't help. In fact, he knew it could only make it worse. As he ran up the stairs he could hear the wind howling and screeching, but it was as if the wind was following him up the stairs and going straight into his ears. He tripped on the last step and cut his knee on the jagged floor. Alex was shaking and could taste his tongue becoming dry. He was now covered in cold sweat and was afraid to move or open his eyes. He mustered up his courage and ran into the bedroom.

Anna was sitting up against the headboard with the blanket wrapped around her like a shield. She had a worried, terrified look on her face. She stuttered "W-What happened down there. I h-heard a lot of noise and... LOOK your knee is bleeding.... what happened down their!"

"Nothing just pack a bag we're going to go to John and Katrina's house for the night."

"Why? What happened?" Anna barked. She began to get annoyed with Alex

"Nothing, Anna!" He screamed... he calmed down and said, "Nothing I just need you to pack clothes for tomorrow, your brush, toothbrush, and come in the car. I'll be outside you can come when you're ready." He went outside and got in the car. He called John with a kind of panicked tone.

"John, hey it's Alex, yeah me and Anna need to come over tonight man, a lot of crazy things are going on and I'm worried."

John replied, "Yeah man, no problem but if you don't mind, what's going on? I haven't heard from you in a while, and now that I do you're worrying me. What's going on with that house?"

"I'll explain when we get there... it's kind of a long story, but believe me it isn't a happy one," Alex sighed.

There was a pause, and then John finally said, "Well alright, we'll be waiting."

Anna got into the car a few moments later with her overnight bag and a very solemn face. She didn't even look or talk to Alex the whole ride. Anna just sat there looking down, staring into space and moving almost automatically when she went to get out of the car. Alex began to worry, he didn't know if he should say, or do something. He just wanted Anna to be safe... and he wanted to see her beautiful smile that he hadn't seen since the day the two bought that dreaded house.

When they walked up the steps to the porch Alex noticed John sitting on an old wicker chair drinking some water. It made sense since it was a warm summer night, but Alex could tell that he was doing this so he could talk to Alex about what was going on in the house without Anna being around to hear. Alex turned to Anna and said, "Honey, you go on inside, I'm going to stay out here with John for a little bit. Okay?" She nodded her head and walked in the house. Then Alex went over and sat next to John in the other chair, sighing as he did so.

"Well," said John, "What's going on?" He scratched his stubbly beard and took a sip of his water.

"I don't know," plainly replied Alex. "Things just aren't the same anymore. Anna's so depressed the only way I get to see her smile anymore is in pictures. Sometimes I sit downstairs at night after she goes to bed and I just stare at pictures of her smiling, but then when I do that the house... or whatever's in the house gets angry and knocks the pictures off the coffee table and..."

"Whoa, whoa, whoa, what do you mean whatever's in the house gets angry? Alex, what's in that house?" exclaimed John.

"Like I said, I don't know. All I know is there's some spirit thing in our house that's just evil. For no reason what so ever, this thing just wants to hurt Anna and I. It's really worrying me though, I mean there's something wrong with Anna, this thing is breaking things, but most off all it's scaring the heck out me. On multiple occasions I've seen these red eyes, I mean these just really red, glowing, mean eyes in random places in the shadows of the house."

"Well I don't know what to tell you except for you're always welcome here when things get bad, and maybe you should start looking for a new house... one that isn't haunted." Alex and

John sat there for a while looking at each other and listening to the crickets until John started talking about work and other things to try and lighten the mood. The two men sat there for a while talking and laughing but in the back of Alex's mind he just kept seeing those eyes.

Chapter Three: Possessed

The next day sometime in the afternoon Alex and Anna went back home. Anna, thankfully was a little more like her usual self, more talkative and down to earth, and Alex felt a little better and relieved since he had talked to John about everything. He felt that things would be okay for a while as long as nothing too serious happened. He was going to try and keep things on the brighter side, he would try to get him and Anna out of the house more, maybe do things with Anna more like cook meals together instead of getting take out and watching some of her favorite movies. He was going to do anything to keep her happy and to get her to smile.

The rest of the day the two were completely fine and felt like things would be that way, so Alex felt as though he could continue his day normally without feeling like he had to keep an eye on Anna. While he was watching one of his favorite shows he saw something out of the corner of his eyes. At first he thought he saw some type of red glowing thing, so he turned his head to see what it was, but when he looked over he felt comfortable enough to think it was part of the pattern on the curtain. He also noticed though that the curtain was out of place, so he went to fix them.

Alex walked over to the window to fix the curtain, he hated when they were messed up. As he was walking over he wondered more and more if what he thought looked like red eyes was just part of the curtains or if it was something more, something he should be afraid of. When he got to the window, out of it he saw a tall, dark figure with glowing, red eyes. He jumped back at the terrifying sight, but he was too curious and wanted to know what it was so he stepped back towards the window. The shadow stared in his eyes, straight into his soul. The curtains were now a frivolous matter, all Alex wanted to do was scream, run, and hide, but something was keeping him there and something was keeping him from freaking out. Alex began to feel almost comfortable in a way watching there looking at this thing staring at him. The curiosity and the thought about how Anna would be even more petrified if she found out what was there, and knew how scared Alex was made him just stand there. A minute later he felt deep fear coming back to him, so he mustered up all of his courage and decided to just fix the curtains and walk away trying to keep himself from shaking.

Alex walked back upstairs leaving the television in the living room on, he was petrified at the apparition he just saw. He walked up the stairs automatically, walked into the bedroom, and sat down on the bed next to Anna. She looked at him but she looked closer at his eyes. She was now horrified and what she saw. His eyes were huge, they looked glossed over, and they had a red tint to them. He looked, and he was possessed.

"Alex?!" Anna cried "Alex are you okay? What happened... are you okay... Alex answer me! Are you okay?!" She waited as Alex turned his head ever slowly stopping when he could look into her eyes. He sat there staring at her for a minute, her looking back filled with confusion, curiosity, and fear all at the same time.

All of the sudden Alex opened his mouth and with a voice, a voice the just wasn't his said, "Yes Anna, I'm just peachy!" He jolted across the bed at her. She screamed in fear. He jolted at her again trying to strangle her. They were fighting back and forth, but Anna was

fighting a losing battle and she was getting weaker. It was as if the thing inside Alex was draining the life and energy from within Anna and using it to become stronger.

With her last fighting breath and with all her mite she kicked Alex as hard as she could and tried to yell, "Alex! Wake up! Alex Please! Don't let it kill me! Please Alex... wake up..." and with that she passed out.

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A few hours later Anna woke up. It took her a minute to realize what happened and where she was. She remembered the fight she had with Alex, or the fight she had with the thing inside Alex. She was looking around the room for a sign of him. She got up and wandered out in the hall. She could hear the television coming from downstairs in the living room so she went down and saw Alex sitting there on the couch watching CNN. She was surprised he was acting like everything was fine and nothing had happened. She inched closer so she could see his eyes and they looked fine again. They didn't look red or glossy or anything. She walked up to him and attempted to calmly say, "Alex are you okay now?"

He looked at her and did a double take due to her neck. He saw the red hand marks around her neck and yelled, "Of course I'm okay what happened to your neck?"

Anna sighed and got tears in her eyes. She calmed down for a moment and said, "A few hours ago I think you were possessed." He looked at her like she had eight heads, you could tell he was very confused and at the same time very concerned. She began to get upset again and started to cry. As a tear slid down her face she said, "Yeah Alex, you were possessed, and you strangled me. You had red glossy eyes and you were taken over by something that scared the heck out of me. Your voice was different and you seemed just so angry." Alex rushed to her side as she collapsed on the couch and started hysterically crying because of the memory of the traumatizing incident. They sat there for a while Alex comforting Anna as she explained everything that happened and everything that was going through her head when she saw the evil look in Alex's eyes as he nearly killed her.

When Anna was done crying Alex brought her up to bed and let her go to sleep. Alex was determined now to do something to get rid of this, but first he had to start by figuring out what it was that was haunting them, and after over an hour of work Alex figured out that a demon was haunting them. He also found out that just moving isn't going get rid of it, so he knew what he was going to do but no one would find out until he did it.

Chapter Four: The End

Everything was starting to go bad, and Alex knew it. He could tell Anna was becoming more and more depressed every day. Nothing was the same anymore. Everything was always getting disrupted by this thing Alex thought was a demon. He was doing research and everything that was going on seemed to be what demons do: causing harm on random people, showing nothing but their glowing red eyes, making growling noises, physically, mentally, and emotionally hurting people with anything they can find about that person, etc. He was sitting on the couch watching television when the demon was again showed his presence.

He heard loud footsteps pounding down the stairs, so he looked over thinking it was Anna but when he looked over he saw nothing but a tall shadow and glowing red eyes. Then he heard a deep growling noise, a growl like he's never heard before. All of the sudden, a huge gust of wind barreled towards him, knocked him off the couch, and made the television screen crack and go out. Anna heard all of the noise and ran down the stairs. When she got to the bottom of the steps there was a screeching scream and she was pushed back and slammed up against the wall, she screamed in pain. Alex tried to get up but a force was holding him to the floor putting more and more pressure on his chest making it hard for him to breathe. Anna began to be dragged higher and higher up the wall being choked as this happened, she tried to scream for Alex but she couldn't make any sounds. Alex again tried to get up with all of his might but slipped and hit his head on the ground. He felt a pain in his head and now everything was fuzzy, but he could still see Anna being dragged up to the ceiling, starting to lose color in her face. Alex wrangled with the unseen force trying to squirm around to get out of its grip but in doing that he harmed himself more.

Alex felt panicked and didn't know what to do. He was speechless from not having the words to comfort Anna anymore. Alex began to be dragged around by his legs all over the floor. He was confused and didn't know what else to do but keep grabbing at his legs trying to get loose from whatever it was pulling him. He heard more growling and things kept getting knocked down or blown around the room. He couldn't understand why all of the sudden this demon was enraged and why it was hurting them so much now... What did they do to it to make it so enraged? Alex refocused on the situation and felt a qualm in his stomach, not knowing anymore if Anna was still alive. He could start to feel his leg go numb and panicked again. He tried to get loose once more clinging onto any furniture he could grab, but at that point the demon that was torturing the two threw him across the house into the wall. His head was bleeding and his body ached, he scrambled to his feet almost falling on his face and rushed to Anna. She had started to lose consciousness and was now pinned to the ceiling. Alex yelled, "Let her go! Take me! Leave her alone!" and at that moment Anna was dropped from the ceiling onto the cold, hard, dining room table. He gasped in astonishment and raced to her side. He turned her face up and tried to wake her up. When she woke up she gasped for breath and started screaming.

"See Alex I told you," Anna yelled, "I told you from the beginning that I hated this house and it gave me the creeps, but since *you* were so obsessed with it I went ahead and let you have your little project house." She stopped to take a breath. No matter how angry she was

and how much she wanted to yell, she was still having a hard time breathing. "If I never gave in and let you have the house, we wouldn't have ever gotten in this mess and we might have gotten a nice house that wasn't haunted." Anna started to get tears in her eyes.

Alex looked at her and calmly said, "Anna, I know and I'm sorry but everything wrong can be fixed, I promise."

"You know that's what you always say!" Anna was in tears now. "How are we supposed to fix *this*? What do you want to do, go spend another night at John and Katrina's? This thing, this demon will be waiting for us when we came home Alex, things like this don't just go away. God! I just can't take this anymore!" Anna ran upstairs with tears streaming down her face.

Alex was mad now, he wasn't going to let anything harm Anna like this. He hated the demon, the house, but most of all himself for getting them involved with all of this, and not listening to Anna when she repeatedly told him she wanted nothing to do with this house. For him, this was the last straw he was mad and he was going to fix it, just like he promised.

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The next day Alex started packing things. He grabbed some boxes and went down stairs. He took pictures off the walls, packed away little trinkets and started wrapping Anna's china plates. While he was doing this Anna heard some noise and decided to go downstairs to see what was going on. When Anna saw Alex packing everything she said, "What on *earth* are you doing."

Alex looked into her eyes and said with a very serious tone, "I'm getting us out of this horrible place, after last night i thought for a while and I realized you were right. You were completely right. This place is ugly, smells, and not to mention haunted by a demon for God's sake. I refuse to see you in pain and depressed every day any longer. I promised I would fix things, and now that's exactly what I'm doing."

Anna smiled, "Well, I'll go call John and Katrina and tell them to get over here because we're moving." She walked over to Alex and gave him a big hug and a kiss. It had been the first one in a while. She was happy to move, and he was happy to see a smile on her face, again it had been the first one in a while. He felt as though he was doing something right, and for the first time in a long while he felt relieved, like something was going to get better. This feeling was so strong he *knew* everything was going to be okay and Anna and him were going to be able to live their lives without fear.

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A little later on in the day John and Katrina showed up in work clothes ready to move. Katrina walked over to Anna and said, "So Alex came through huh?"

"Yea," she said, "He realized the way we were living wasn't going to work for much longer until one of us went insane. What was going on just wasn't normal and we had to do something." While the two talked, John and Alex started talking.

"So what happened?" John asked I thought you were really excited about this house."

"Well didn't you notice Anna's depression, and how I was never around?" Alex replied.

"Yeah, now that you mention it I did. What happened with you guys, neither of you said anything and Katrina never said anything. What was spooking you guys so much?"

"Well I had done some research and I'm 99% sure it was a demon haunting us. They're supposed to be really mean and exist only to inflict pain and suffering on random victims."

Right at that moment one of the boxes stacked in the corner by Katrina and Anna in the dining room was knocked off the top of the stack and thrown into the middle of the living room. Everyone stopped and looked at each other. Then Alex and Anna locked eyes and knew the horror show wasn't over yet. Coming from the kitchen everyone heard drawers and cabinets being slammed and utensils being thrown.

Katrina yelled, "What the heck is going on?"

Alex yelled back, "I made it angry, now it does this to scare us. Don't show fear though it'll come for you." As he finished saying that he was shoved from behind. The demon was becoming more and more angry; they didn't know how smart it was and how powerful it could be.

They all waited a while to be sure everything stopped and then went to clean everything up. It took them the rest of the day to pack everything and no one except for Alex knew what he was going to do yet. He was anticipating the final step in getting rid of the demon but first they had to wait for the moving truck to arrive so they could get everything out of the house. When it finally did arrive Alex disappeared for a while no one knew where he had gone.

About a half hour later he came back with two cans of gasoline. By that time everything was in the truck and ready to be moved to the storage facility. Everything was going to stay there until Alex and Anna found somewhere better and not haunted to live. Anna walked up to Alex and said, "well we're all ready to go so whenever you want to we'll be outside in the car waiting."

"Okay, I'll be there in a second there's just one last thing I want to do."

"Okay," Anna said, and she walked out closing the screeching door carefully behind her.

Alex watched Anna close the door and turned towards the rest of the house again. He looked around with a serious look and yelled, "Well you've done it you stupid, evil, demon. You've drove us out, petrified us, and made us lose our voices a few times, but let me tell you something," he was walking around yelling into the air, "You, have not stopped us from living, we will live our life because you, you mean nothing to us." The demon started to get angry, it was running around the house and slamming the walls trying to scare Alex, but Alex was done with being scared he was strong now and was standing high.

"We are still going to live and you are still going to burn and suffer, and believe me I mean it." He began pouring gasoline everywhere. He poured it on the stairs, the walls, the floors and laughed as he walked out the door.

When he walked out he went to the end of the walkway he turned around lit his lighter and threw it at the house. There was a small explosion and then a huge fire. Anna, Katrina, and John hopped out of the car and jostled each other trying to get to Alex. They all stood there watching it burn. They stood and stared for over an hour watching the house burn to the ground until there was almost no fire left. They all looked at each other and got in John's car. Alex and Anna sat in the back to watch the fire go out as they drove away. As the fire disappeared the two felt a huge weight lifting off of their shoulders and now felt okay. As they drove away Alex whispered, "The end."

Epilogue

The Aftermath

60 years later

“George look at this property! It’s amazing! The land is huge and already cleared,” exclaimed Lynda.

“Oh yeah Lynda, this is great! Do you want me to call the realtor?” asked George.

“Absolutely,” excitedly replied Lynda. “I want to get construction started here right away.”

George called the realtor and told her that they wanted to buy the property and start building their dream home right away. If they knew though, that the house owned by Anna and Alex Johnson used to stand here and they knew why Alex Johnson burned it down they would have continued their search.

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Two years later after long and hot days of hard work Lynda and George Green’s dream home was built. They wanted to move in to what seemed like their harmless home right away. They were such happy and innocent people, only if someone had told them what had happened 60 years ago to the Johnson’s.

The night they moved in when they were getting ready for bed Lynda kept hearing what she thought was a growling noise coming from the hall. She decided to ignore it though because she wasn’t going to let anything ruin her happiness, so she let it go. A few minutes later though George heard it and unlike Lynda he was more intrigued. He asked, “Lynda did you hear that noise?”

“Yeah,” She flatly replied, “Do you want to go check out what it might be.”

“Yeah,” Said George as he slowly walked out of the bedroom. He walked slowly down the hall looking in every room for an animal that he expected to find, but the further down the hall he got the more he started to wonder if it was an animal or something else. As he got closer and closer to the end of the hall the noise started to fade. George turned around and started walking back to the bedroom still checking the rooms for any animals. Then all of the sudden a blood curdling screech came from behind him. He whipped himself around to see what it was, but before he could run a huge unseen power came and pushed him off the floor and down the hall into the bedroom, past Lynda, out the window, and down 50 feet to the cold hard ground. Lynda rushed over to the window and looked down aghast at what she had just witnessed she called George’s name over and over crying hysterically wishing he would just sit up, but before she could turn around to go downstairs, she was shoved out the window and fell to her death, never to be heard from again.

The End